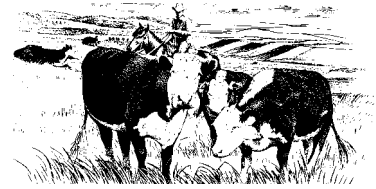


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CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots totaled 485 thousand head on April 1, 2002, up 2 percent from last month and 11 percent above April 2001. During March, placements of 68.0 thousand head were up 5 percent from the previous year. Marketings of 55.0 thousand head were down 2 percent from March of 2001. Other disappearance totaled 3.00 thousand head.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP SLIGHTLY

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1000+ capacity feedlots totaled 11.58 million head on April 1, 2002. The inventory was almost one-half percent above April 1, 2001 and 3 percent above April 1, 2000. The inventory included 7.23 million steers and steer calves, up 4 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 4.30 million head, down 4 percent from 2001.

Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.95 million, 6 percent above 2001, but 4 percent below 2000. Net placements were 1.88 million. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 314 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 372 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 702 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 565 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.83 million, 5 percent below 2001 and 11 percent below 2000. Other disappearance totaled 69.0 thousand during March, 30 percent below 2001 and 33 percent below 2000.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 1 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN MONTHLY STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.93 million on April 1, 2002, up 1 percent from the previous year and 4 percent above April 1, 2000. The inventory included 6.18 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 62 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.72 million head, down 5 percent from 2001. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.65 million, 8 percent above 2001, but 5 percent below 2000. Marketings during March totaled 1.57 million, 2 percent below 2001 and 11 percent below 2000. Other disappearance during March was 60.0 thousand head, 25 percent below 2001 and 19 percent below 2000.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number On Feed March 1 ^{1/}			Placed During March		Marketed During March	
	2001	2002	2002/2001	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	307	310	101	29	32	22	27
California	440	475	108	65	68	56	55
Colorado	1,190	1,150	97	220	200	210	215
Iowa	385	400	104	46	49	45	53
Kansas	2,470	2,420	98	395	435	385	420
Nebraska	2,380	2,300	97	320	310	335	300
Texas	2,840	2,850	100	455	560	550	495
Seven-State Total	10,012	9,905	99	1,530	1,654	1,603	1,565
State	Other Disappearance During March ^{2/}		Number On Feed April 1		2002/2001		
	2001	2002	2001	2002			
	1,000 Head					Percent	
Arizona	5	1	309	314	102		
California	14	3	435	485	111		
Colorado	10	15	1,190	1,120	94		
Iowa	1	1	385	395	103		
Kansas	20	15	2,460	2,420	98		
Nebraska	15	10	2,350	2,300	98		
Texas	15	15	2,730	2,900	106		
Seven-State Total	80	60	9,859	9,934	101		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

California milk producers produced 2.98 billion pounds of milk in March 2002. This was 13 percent above February 2002 and 6 percent above March 2001.

Monthly milk per cow averaged 1,825 pounds, 205 pounds more than February 2002 and 35 pounds more than a year ago.

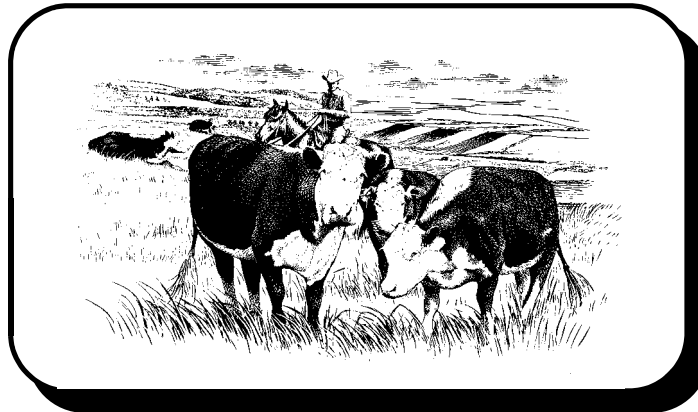
CALIFORNIA MILK PRODUCTION

Month	CALIFORNIA 1/						Total Milk Receipts 2/		UNITED STATES 1/ 3/					
	Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production				Milk Cows		Milk Per Cow		Milk Production	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds				1,000 Head		Pounds		Million Pounds	
Jan.	1,563	1,622	1,760	1,765	2,751	2,863	2,748	2,832	7,784	7,740	1,549	1,585	12,059	12,271
Feb.	1,568	1,626	1,615	1,620	2,532	2,634	2,526	2,630	7,764	7,744	1,431	1,468	11,108	11,365
Mar.	1,572	1,631	1,790	1,825	2,814	2,977	2,807	---	7,743	7,745	1,599	1,650	12,384	12,778
Apr.	1,576		1,770		2,790		2,784	---	7,740		1,571		12,156	
May	1,582		1,825		2,887		2,883	---	7,749		1,632		12,647	
June	1,587		1,755		2,785		2,781	---	7,751		1,555		12,052	
July	1,592		1,770		2,818		2,813	---	7,746		1,552		12,025	
Aug.	1,598		1,765		2,820		2,814	---	7,735		1,520		11,754	
Sept.	1,604		1,690		2,711		2,705	---	7,730		1,472		11,376	
Oct.	1,609		1,745		2,808		2,800	---	7,726		1,522		11,756	
Nov.	1,614		1,685		2,720		2,716	---	7,739		1,485		11,492	
Dec.	1,618		1,740		2,815		2,808	---	7,750		1,549		12,008	

1/ Revised 2001 data.

2/ Milk receipts are from the California Department of Food and Agriculture's Dairy Marketing and Milk Pooling Branches. Excludes on-farm usage.

3/ Twenty-state total.



AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		March 2001	February 2002	March 15, 2002	March 2001	February 2002	March 15, 2002
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	110.00	120.00	125.00	90.10	90.40	91.40
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	111.00	122.00	126.00	95.00	99.50	98.80
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	45.90	38.50	36.30
Cows 2/	Cwt.	42.00	39.00	41.00	42.30	40.60	42.40
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	79.50	72.00	74.00	80.50	73.60	75.30
Calves 2/	Cwt.	98.00	93.50	95.00	112.00	105.00	104.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	39.50	30.00	---	46.60	35.30	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	80.00	63.50	---	84.00	67.40	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	---	---	---	---	---
All Milk Whsle. 2/	Cwt.	12.80	11.50	11.30	13.90	13.10	12.70

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Price includes barrows, gilts, and sows.

4/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July, and October.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California's production of red meat during March 2002 totaled 104.1 million pounds (dressed weight), up 10 percent from last month and 11 percent above March 2001. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In March 2002, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,307 pounds; calves 160 pounds; and hogs 231 pounds.

U.S. COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.68 billion pounds in March, down 2 percent from the 3.76 billion pounds produced in March 2001.

March 2001 contained 22 weekdays and five Saturdays.
March 2002 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays.

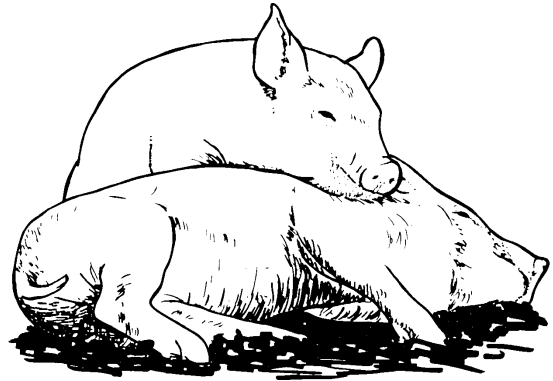
Beef production, at 2.06 billion pounds, was 2 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.74 million head, down 6 percent from March 2001. The average live weight was 1,241 pounds, up 42 pounds from March a year ago.

Veal production totaled 15.0 million pounds, 9 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 77.5 thousand head, down 8 percent from March 2001. The average live weight was 323 pounds, unchanged from March a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.58 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.98 million head, 4 percent below March 2001. The average live weight was 267 pounds, up 3 pounds from March a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 22.3 million pounds, was down 5 percent from March 2001. Sheep slaughter totaled 324.5 thousand head, 1 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down 5 pounds from March a year ago.

January - March red meat production was 11.26 billion pounds, 1 percent above a year ago. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 7 percent, pork was down 1 percent, and lamb and mutton production was down 4 percent.



COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, MARCH 2001-02 ^{a/}

Species and Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	2001	2002	2001	2002	2001	2002
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	88.6	97.3	110,693	127,221	1,249	1,307
U.S.	2,918.4	2,737.3	3,498,283	3,397,253	1,199	1,241
CALVES						
California	8.2	8.7	1,285	1,383	157	160
U.S.	84.3	77.5	27,268	25,054	323	323
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	----	----	----	----	----	----
U.S.	328.6	324.5	47,029	44,683	143	138
HOGS						
California	196.0	185.4	43,738	42,798	223	231
U.S.	8,329.1	7,981.2	2,198,127	2,131,688	264	267
RED MEAT	March 2001	February 2002 ^{b/}	March 2002	<u>Mar. 02</u> Mar. 01	<u>Mar. 02</u> Feb. 02	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	93.8	94.3	104.1	111	110	
U.S.	3,762.3	3,501.2	3,676.8	98	105	

^{a/} Farm slaughter excluded.

^{b/} Revised.